



Dear Parents and Carers

2022 saw our Boarding numbers increase and they continue to grow leading into 2023. With girl boarding numbers continuing to increase and a stable boys' program, we anticipate further growth. Our strong Boarding numbers I believe can be attributed to certain factors which include:

- > exceptional pastoral care provided by our Boarding staff;
- > improved academic outcomes for boarders as a direct result of the structured study program and tutor support system; and the
- > regulation of electronic devices.

We are rightly proud of our Boarding community and I hope that your association with Boarding in 2023 will be a most enriching and satisfying one for you and your family. We especially welcome all of our new families to the Saints community and sincerely hope that you will find the years ahead very rewarding and positive.

To ensure a seamless and smooth year, please take careful note of the 2023 Term Dates listed in this newsletter. Your support in adhering to these times will ensure a settled and productive environment for your son or daughter.

The College aims to be very consistent with expectations and standards surrounding the arrival and departure of boarders. To assist with this, the 2023 Boarding calendar fridge magnet will be distributed to all Boarding families. Please display this somewhere it can be easily referred to throughout the year.

The 2023 Boarding Information Handbook will be distributed with this newsletter to keep you well informed of all Boarding matters. However, please do not hesitate to make contact if you have any questions.

A reminder that photos and Boarding news can be accessed through our Boarding Facebook page:

St Augustine's College Cairns Boarding Community

For new families who use Facebook, follow the link below to join our page:

[@staugustinescollegecairnsboardingcommunity](https://www.facebook.com/staugustinescollegecairnsboardingcommunity)

The Boarding staff and I look forward to working with your family throughout the year.

Best wishes for 2023.

Mr Brett Toombs
DIRECTOR OF BOARDING

2023 BOARDING STAFF

2023 represents a change in our Boarding structure and we now focus on a Junior and Senior model of Boarding. Our four residences will be led by our very capable Heads of Residences, and we are excited to welcome two new Heads of Residences to lead the girls in Boarding.

Mrs Desiree Price, who has been a Boarding Supervisor for the past two years, will lead the Junior Girls Residence (Years 7-9), while we welcome Ms Renee Luff, who will lead the Senior Girls Residence (Years 10-12). Mr Stephen King will assume the responsibility of heading up the Junior Boys Residence (Years 7-9), and Mr David Lawrence will oversee the Senior Boys (Years 10-12).

Boarding offers a variety of programs and activities, and we look forward to the 2023 Saturday Activities Program and Boarding Camps, coordinated by Mr Keith Mole, who does an excellent job in his role as Activities Coordinator.

An integral part of the Boarding program is the extremely committed and dedicated staff that assist in the supervision of our students. We are also committed to reaching our Strategic Plan goal of increased academic assistance within the homework program, and we will once again rely on teaching and non-teaching staff in tutoring roles.



From left: Mr Stephen King, Head of Junior Boys Residence
Mr David Lawrence, Head of Senior Boys Residence
Mrs Desiree Price, Head of Junior Girls Residence
Ms Renee Luff, Head of Senior Girls Residence

BOARDING ARRIVALS - TERM 1

Could I please ask families to email returning flight itineraries to sac.boarding@cns.catholic.edu.au once available so that we can ensure transport from the airport is co-ordinated efficiently.

Can I also emphasise that all boarders are expected back in residence on the day before their first school day commences. If there are exceptions to this, contact must be made with the relevant College Principal.

MONDAY 23 JANUARY

- > SAC All Boarders in residence.
- > Year 7 SAC & SMC Boarders in residence from 10am.
- > SAC & SMC Years 8, 9 & 10 new Boarders in residence from 10am.
- > SAC Years 8-12 Boarders in residence 1pm-8pm.
- > SMC Years 9 & 11 Boarders in residence 1pm-8pm.
- > REACH Boarding Tutorial 4pm.
- > New Boarders' Parent Meeting at 5pm in Tolle's.

TUESDAY 24 JANUARY

- > SAC classes commence.
- > SMC Years 7, 9 & 11 commence.
- > New SMC students Years 8-10 Orientation, 12:30pm-3:20pm.
- > SMC Years 8, 10 & 12 Returning Boarders in Residence 3pm-8pm.

WEDNESDAY 25 JANUARY

- > All SAC and SMC in day school.

THURSDAY 26 JANUARY

- > Australia Day Outing to Port Douglas.

FRIDAY 27 JANUARY

- > SAC & SMC Boarding photos in Lennon Hall prior to the start of the school day.

MONDAY 30 JANUARY

- > SMC College Photo Day.

2023 FREE/EXEAT WEEKENDS

TERM 1

Saturday 11 February & Sunday 12 February (Free)
Saturday 25 February - Monday 27 February (Exeat)
Saturday 18 March & Sunday 19 March (Free)

TERM 2

Saturday 29 April - Monday 1 May (Free)
Saturday 20 May - Sunday 21 May (Exeat)
Saturday 10 June & Sunday 11 June (Free)

TERM 3

Friday 21 July - Sunday 23 July (Free)
Saturday 12 August - Sunday 13 August (Exeat)
Saturday 2 September - Sunday 3 September (Free)

TERM 4

Saturday 14 October & Sunday 15 October (Free)
Saturday 28 October - Sunday 29 October (Exeat)
Saturday 11 November & Sunday 12 November (Free)

ABSENCES FROM DAY SCHOOL

All requests for leave from the day school are to be directed to the Principal of St Augustine's or St Monica's, not to the Director of Boarding or Head of Residence. If such a need arises, a Request for Student Absence form must be submitted to the Student Office for approval.

Requests for leave that require a student to be away from the College or Boarding for a full day or greater must be made in writing to the Principal prior to leave arrangements being made. Request for Student Absence forms are available from the Parent Portal or the College Office.

The Director of Boarding or the Heads of Residence cannot approve leave from the day school, and Boarding leave will only be considered once a Request for Student Absence form is submitted to the College Principal.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE

Parents are asked to adhere to the College Term Dates and wherever possible restrict holidays or other periods of leave to the gazetted holiday periods.

Boarding students are granted a 'travel day' on the final day of term that will allow boarders from remote locations to travel home and arrive for the start of the school holidays. Weekly boarders will not be granted early departures for Exeat weekends or the start of school holidays. Once again, your efforts in minimising interruptions to lesson times are appreciated.

Please refer to the Parent Information Handbook for detailed information regarding this process.

BOARDING TRANSPORT

The benefits of involvement in extra-curricular activities are well documented and for this reason, boarders' involvement is both encouraged and supported. However, while a driver is available each day to drive boarders to and from activities, transport will only be provided to venues within 15 minutes of the College.

If parents wish to arrange alternative transport with a coach, relative, family friend or team member, this will only be approved (via an Extra-Curricular Activity Application) on the provision that the increased travel time does not impact on a boarder's academic commitments (ie. study).

WEEKEND RETURN TIME

On Free and Exeat weekends, students may return by 8:00pm or on the morning of school on the understanding students are on time and ready for normal commencement. If students elect to return on the morning of school, the Head of Residence must be advised and details reflected in the REACH leave request. Late arrivals will see students forfeit this late return privilege. On all other weekends, students must be in residence for community dinner at 6pm.

Our Boarders' Mass at 7pm on non-Free or Exeat weekends is a condition of enrolment and is non-negotiable. It is compulsory for all students to be in attendance for this celebration.

BOARDING STAFF CONTACTS

The first port of call for issues in Boarding is your son or daughter's Head of Residence. Their mobile numbers and email addresses are listed below:

SENIOR BOYS RESIDENCE (*Years 10, 11, 12 Boys*)

Mr David Lawrence

T: 0419 652 401

E: sac.seniorboys@cns.catholic.edu.au

JUNIOR BOYS RESIDENCE (*Years 7, 8, 9 Boys*)

Mr Stephen King

T: 0419 652 916

E: sac.juniorboys@cns.catholic.edu.au

SENIOR GIRLS RESIDENCE (*Years 10, 11, 12 Girls*)

Ms Renee Luff

T: 0419 652 278

E: sac.seniorgirls@cns.catholic.edu.au

JUNIOR GIRLS RESIDENCE (*Years 7, 8, 9 Girls*)

Mrs Desiree Price

T: 0419 652 108

E: sac.juniorgirls@cns.catholic.edu.au

DIRECTOR OF BOARDING

Mr Brett Toombs

T: 0417 430 280

E: sac.boarding@cns.catholic.edu.au

COLLEGE PHOTO DAY

FRIDAY 27 JANUARY 2023

NQ School Photography will be taking the St Augustine's College Student ID and Homeroom photos on Friday 27 January 2023.

Group photos of all Boarding residents are taken prior to the girls departing for school on photo day.

Orders can be made online at www.nqsp.com.au using the shoot key **9PVB6UUX**. Sibling photos can also be ordered online.

The St Monica's College Photo Day will be held on Monday 30 January 2023.

STUDENT MEDICATION

The College has a very consistent policy that ensures that boarders who are on medication, will be administered this through the Health and Wellbeing Centre (HWBC).

The College Nurse is responsible for the administration of medication in the morning, and the HWBC opens from 8:15pm to 8:30pm at night for student medication.

The **Permission to Administer Medication** form can be found on the Parent Portal or by contacting the College Office. For your convenience, a copy will be sent to all Boarding families. **Parents need to ensure that the form is completed and returned along with current medication and current medical history when students return to Boarding in 2023.**

Boarders are not permitted to keep medication in their residences and/or personally administer medication.

STUDENT MEDICAL HISTORY

Parents/carers are asked to send in current student medical history for the 2023 student year. This information can be forwarded to Sr Suzana, our College Nurse on sac.nurse@cns.catholic.edu.au Any queries about providing this information can be directed to Sr Suzana on 4052 9111.

IMMUNISATION PAPERWORK

The College participates in Queensland Health's School Based Vaccination Program for all students in Years 7 and 10. The vaccination team will be visiting the College to give free vaccinations against Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine (dTpa) to Year 7 students. Year 10 students will receive the Meningococcal ACWY Vaccination.

Vaccination dates are listed below:

Year 7 - Tuesday 21 February

HPV Dose 1 & dTpa vaccine

Year 10 - Tuesday 13 June

Meningococcal ACWY

Year 7 & Year 10 - Tuesday 5 September

HPV Dose 2 & Year 10 Catchup

An information sheet and Vaccination Consent Card will be sent home to Boarding families over the holidays. Year 7 and 10 parents/carers must complete, sign and return to the College Office so that their son can be immunised. Information regarding vaccination program for girls is available from St Monica's College.

COUNTRY DINNERS 2023

Boarding families are encouraged to come along to the Saints Country Dinner in their area during the year to meet staff and other parents. Proposed dinners for 2023 are as follows:

Term 1 Weipa Visit & Country Dinner
(Friday 3 March)

Tablelands Country Dinner
(Friday 21 April)

Term 2 Gove & Groote Visit & Country Dinner
(Friday 26 May)

Term 3 Port Douglas Country Dinner
(Friday 11 August)

REACH BOARDING SYSTEM

The Boarding community uses REACH software for the daily running and organisation of Boarding. **A tutorial on the REACH program will be held at the College on Monday 23 January.** Early in January, families will receive an email on how to access the REACH system including passwords and login details.

REACH provides students and families the ability to request and approve leave, which is a very important function and process of Boarding life. When a student requires to leave the College, a leave request must be submitted through REACH, and parents and the Head of Residence/Director of Boarding must approve before the student leaves the campus. To access the REACH system go to staugustines.reachboarding.com.au

PRESENCE

• MARIST •

SIMPLICITY

• MARIST •

FAMILY SPIRIT

• MARIST •

LOVE OF
WORK

• MARIST •

IN THE WAY
OF MARY

• MARIST •